



Ex-CBI Roundup

— CHINA — BURMA — INDIA —

(ISSN 0014-388X)

October, 1979



Admiral of the Fleet The Earl Mountbatten of Burma, 79, Supreme Allied Commander of the South-east Asia Command during World War II, was killed August 27 in an explosion that destroyed his yacht off the coast of Ireland. IRA terrorists claimed responsibility for his death, and police said the blast apparently was caused by a time bomb.

Better known to CBers as Lord Louis Mountbatten, and to thousands of British Burma veterans as the beloved "El Supremo," he was a second cousin of Queen Elizabeth II and the favorite uncle of her husband, Prince Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh. He is believed to have won more medals and honors than any other man of his generation.

At 13 he followed his father, German-born Prince Louis Alexander, who had married Queen Victoria's granddaughter, Princess Victoria, in the British Navy. He fought at sea as a teen-ager, became the youngest captain and then the youngest admiral in Royal Navy history and the youngest supreme commander in the allied forces during World War II.

After the war, as the last Viceroy of India, he supervised the partitioning of India and Pakistan and the transfer of power to their new governments, agreeing to India's request to serve as its first constitutional Governor-General.

Returning to Britain, he became Naval Chief of Staff, then Britain's first Chief of Staff, acting decisively to pull the nation's three armed services into a unified Ministry of Defense and take them into the age of nuclear missiles.

He retired in 1965, after 52 years of continuous military and diplomatic service to his country, but continued to be active in a variety of fields.

1900
1979



MOUNTBATTEN is pictured here (top right) as he addressed troops on the Burma front; (lower left) talking to the bandmaster of the Welsh Guards, prior to the 1978 Remembrance Day parade in London; and (lower right), with His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, visiting with American CBers (including Roundup editors) following the 1978 Burma Reunion in London's Royal Albert Hall.



EX-CBI ROUNDUP

CHINA • BURMA • INDIA

(ISSN 0014-388X)

Ex-CBI ROUNDUP, established in 1946, is a reminiscing magazine published monthly except AUGUST and SEPTEMBER at 119 South Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, by and for former members of U. S. Units stationed in the China-Burma-India Theater during World War II.

NEIL L. MAURER Editor
GRACE R. MAURER Assistant Editor

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Letter FROM The Editors . . .

● On cover this month, TSgt. Syd Greenberg, combat photographer, shows his Leica to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek during inspection tour of front lines early in 1945.

● Recent death of veteran film star John Wayne recalls the fact that an Ex-CBI Roundup reader, Herb Fisher of New Jersey, once played The Duke in a movie. He did the flying for Wayne in a Curtiss P-40 Warhawk for Republic's 1942 film, "The Flying Tigers." Fisher, who was a Curtiss test pilot in CBI, has flown more than 2,500 individual P-40s.

● A collection of carved ivory featured twice in Ex-CBI Roundup was stolen recently from the public library at Columbus, Kans. The collection of more than 300 pieces, considered "priceless" because it is irreplaceable, was donated to the library in 1963 by CBler Fred T. Evans, now of Wichita, Kans., who started putting it together in 1943 while serving in India. Evans and the ivory collection were featured on the cover of Roundup's November 1957 issue, and another article on it appeared in the April 1961 issue. A World War I veteran and longtime railroad man, Evans served in India as a staff sergeant in a railway operating battalion of the U.S. Army. He was general yardmaster at a station about 280 miles from Calcutta.

● We welcome the many new subscribers to Ex-CBI Roundup who have joined us during the last few months. We hope you enjoy every issue of the magazine, and take advantage of the opportunities to associate with other CBI veterans.

● We regret that we find it impossible to reply to all letters arriving in the office of Ex-CBI Roundup. With almost 5,000 subscribers, our mailbox is sometimes filled to overflowing!

OCTOBER, 1979



4th Combat Cargo

● Was a flight engineer on a C-46 with 4th Combat Cargo Group, 14th Squadron. I was discharged as a TSgt.

RICHARD L. FORAKER,
Warren, Ohio

New Bashas

● Anyone wishing to form a new basha of the CBI Veterans Association may contact any one of the following basha development committee members nearest to them for assistance:
Ludwig S. Baumgarten, chairman, Box 476-B Baumgarten Road, Woodstock, N.Y. 12498; Marvin Boyenga, 610 South Tennessee Pl., Mason City, Iowa 50401; Amy Pat Edwards, 1318 Pine Chase, Houston, Tex. 77055; Loren Durfee, 29 Bay Lane, Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225.
LUDWIG BAUMGARTEN
Woodstock, N.Y.



TICKET for spring dance at Hostel V, 14th Air Force in China, April 1944. Sent in by Patsy A. Spado.



INDIAN workmen squatting under umbrellas along curb of street in Calcutta. Photo from Merle Strauch.

Rescue in Burma

● Was rescued from behind enemy lines in Burma by the Kachins in January 1944 after having bailed out of my C-46 as we returned from Kunming. I was a Hump pilot from February 1943 through March 1944 stationed at Sookerating and Chabua. Had 87 missions. I would love to hear from anyone who might remember me.

JACK W. MILLER,
13240 Kerr Trail,
Dallas, Tex. 75234

721 Railway Bn.

● Roundup is the one magazine of which I read every word, as it brings back so many old memories. I am a former T-5 with the 721st Railway Operating Battalion, Company B, Parbatipur, India.

H. W. ROTHGEB,
Hoagland, Ind.

Merle Foltz

● Merle Foltz, 70, of Tucson, Ariz., died recently. He was an Army veteran of WW2, serving in the Engineer Corps in the CBI theater. His wife survives.

(From a newspaper clipping submitted by Roy A. Bockler, Metamora, Ill.)

Original CBIs

● Was one of the original CBIs in Casual Detachment 8925-B arriving in Karachi on

the SS Brazil early in 1942. Some went to New Delhi; others to Chungking or Ramgarh. The detachment (Stilwell's Headquarters Group) was staged out of Fort Screven, Ga., through Wilmington, N.C., in early March 1942; then via San Juan, Sierra Leone, Capetown, Port Elizabeth to Karachi. Split through North Malir Cantonment to New Delhi (Headquarters, Service of Supply). Departed Bombay in September 1943 aboard the Navy hospital ship "Heritage" via Australia, Bora Bora to Wilmington, Calif. Had an enjoyable and educational tour.

TOM BRADLEY,
Bowie, Md.

Return to Burma

● The July 1979 issue had an article, "Return to Burma," by Col. Nevin Wetzel. In the article, on page 16, he refers to a Colonel Willey; that he assumed command of Merrill's Marauders and they became Willey's Rangers. I was a member of the 5307 Composite Unit (Prov.), better known as Merrill's Marauders, until after the fall of Myitkyina and the slow return of members to the States. For a time I was liaison between General Merrill and General Stilwell. I have never heard of Colonel Willey. Could you explain this to me?

HOBERT H. PORTER,
Captain, USA (Ret.),
Jackson, Miss.

Brig. Gen. John P. Willey was actually in command of the 5332d Brigade [Prov.], also known as Mars Task Force, which included many men from the Marauders. This unit was activated 26 July 1944 with Brig. Gen. Thomas Arms in command. Arms was injured in a motor accident and was succeeded on 13 October 1944 by Willey, who had been chief of staff of the Myitkyina Task Force from June to August of that year. — Eds.



FOUR Chinese children gathering firewood at Paoshan. Photo by Anthony Sinare.

124th Cavalry

● The 124th Cavalry Association will hold its annual reunion Oct. 19, 20 and 21 in the Fort Brown Motor Hotel at Brownsville, Tex. For further information write Byron P. Sadler, 11642 Memorial Drive, Houston, Tex. 77024, or R. P. Blankenship, 7711 Morley St., Houston, Tex. 77061.

BOB BLANKENSHIP,
Houston, Tex.

Signal Officer

● Served as a signal officer in General Stilwell's command at Ramgahr, India, training Chinese troops, Chungking at theater headquarters and at Kunming with the Yoke Force. Ex-CBI Roundup is read with great interest recalling many memories of this service.

EUGENE W. RIDEOUT,
Colonel, USAR (Ret.),
Chico, Calif.

Familiar Face

● Every now and then I spot a familiar face in the pictures. Did we really look like that? I find it hard to recall after some 35 years, but some incidents are still vivid!

COL. ALEX E. HARRIS,
Little Rock, Ark.

Cobra Bedmate

● One incident I recall in Burma really stands out in my mind. I was then serving with the 1st Air Ambulance Squadron, before transferring to a bomb group as a tail gunner on B-24s. At the time our unit was billeted in a remote area of the airfield in Bhamo and since we were a small unit we were all very close. Although we had sleeping cots, they weren't the most comfortable pieces of issue so sometimes you would find some of the guys sleeping on a scrounged mattress or sleeping bag on the floor. Early one morning the O.D., flashlight in hand, entered one of the tents to wake up an aircrew for an early morning special flight. As he flashed



ANYONE who is nostalgic about the old C-47 "Gooney Bird" can now secure, at nominal cost, a 16" x 20" color print of the C-47 suitable for framing. The print (above) is a copy of a painting by R. G. Smith, former Navy officer and one of the masters of aviation art, and has a CBI background. It can be obtained from MPB Corporation, Attention SILVER WINGS, Prevision Park, Keene, N.H. 03431 for \$4.00 plus \$1.50 for postage. Color prints of B-17, B-25 and P-51 also available. Photo submitted by R. A. Baker.

his light on one of the pilots stretched out on a sleeping bag on the floor he pulled up short. There nestled next to the pilot's leg was a cobra curled up and asleep. The O.D. was afraid to call out to the pilot as he was afraid the man would roll over onto the snake. Hesitatingly he unholstered his .45 automatic, flashed the light on the snake with his left hand and aimed the pistol. Bang! One dead cobra, one wounded pilot. The bullet went right through the snake and hit the guy's leg. The pilot's first reaction was to cuss out the O.D., not yet realizing a splattered snake lay next to him. When the O.D. explained the situation the poor pilot almost fainted. Needless to say, he didn't sleep on the floor anymore after that, and it was quite some time before he was able to fly again.

LEE CHALIFOUR,
Port Charlotte, Fla.

Valued Memories

● Your excellent magazine recovers rewarding experiences and valued memories for all of us who served in China.

A. C. WEDEMEYER,
General, USA (Ret.),
Boys, Md.

Mars Task Force

● Was in 2nd Squad, Company G, 2nd Battalion of 475th Regiment (Mars Task Force).

WILLIAM F. BIRDSALL,
Sayre, Pa.

245th Vet. Det.

● Was with the 245th Vet. Detachment in Chunking, China, when the war ended.

PAUL OEHRTMAN,
Versailles, Ohio

Two Units

● Served with the 330 Troop Carrier and 4th Combat Cargo Group in Burma.

ARTHUR R. CONKLIN,
West Nyack, N.Y.

Long Time No See

This article is reprinted from Empire Magazine, published by The Denver Post. The author lives in Colorado Springs.

By JAMES R. PATTERSON

Capt. E. Jay Curtis, a Denver-based pilot for Frontier Airlines for 27 years, agrees with me that, from a strictly aeronautical point of view, there are similarities between Colorado Springs and Chanyi, China. The altitude is virtually the same, while the terrain and weather are comparable. There, however, all resemblance ends.

Curtis and I were guests of the Chiang Kai-shek government during World War II. Under a sort of reverse lend-lease arrangement, the Chinese housed and fed us while, in return, as U.S. Army Air

Corps pilots, we distributed the supplies that came over "The Hump."

Although the recent rapprochement with the Peoples Republic of China should open the interior of the country to travelers, it is doubtful that many tourists will be attracted to that part of western China surrounding the village of Chanyi. It lies about 80 miles northeast of Kunming, which was the capital of Yunnan province and the principal Hump terminus in the wartime airlift operation to supply Chinese forces.

One nice thing could be said of our former airbase: There was no malaria. A wide variety of other unpleasant ailments (chiefly eye diseases and goiter) were observable among the local inhabitants, but mosquitoes apparently couldn't stand the place. However, we slept at night under mosquito nets, not as a protection against insects but as an early-warning system against roaming rats.

I arrived in Chanyi in the fall of 1944 (a few weeks before my friend Curtis) after having been stationed in the Assam Valley of India as a C-46 transport pilot with the Air Transport Command. My departure for the China post was one tiny result of the ATC commanding general in Calcutta winning a bitter controversy with Lt. Gen. Claire Chennault, commander of the Fourteenth Air Force in Chungking. Chennault had been adamant that only his personnel and aircraft should distribute in China the air cargoes vaulting the Himalayan Mountains. But the ATC won the argument and the assignment to perform the airlift mission when the advancing Japanese armies made a steep increase in supplies imperative.

Because of the shorter runway lengths in China, the smaller C-47 (military version of the famed DC-3) was to be used. So Hump crews in India who had experience in that aircraft were reassigned.

The first cadre to fly in bumped down the crushed rock runway of the former Flying Tigers base late one cold Novem-



THE AUTHOR poses on a native cart just behind his Chanyi quarters. Although the steel helmets were issued to all stationed on the base, they rarely were worn except for picture-taking purposes.



SCENIC view of countryside in China, with terraced field on hillside in background.

ber afternoon. A Jeep drove up to lead us to the low mud-brick operations building where three or four Chinese soldiers disinterestedly watched our arrival. On the ground we could see we were cradled between two ridges of mountains with a few rude buildings on a hill to the west.

"Looks pretty grim," I said to the American captain who came out to welcome us. He replied with the classic World War II greeting to newcomers: "Hell, fella, you should have been here when it was really tough."

It was tough enough. My second night in Chanyi I was assigned as co-pilot to learn the 700-mile route to Sian (sometimes written "Hsian"), the ancient northwest China trade center that was the capital city of the Han dynasty 200 years before the birth of Christ. We became lost in the darkness near the end of the flight, but finally found the city. The same thing happened on my second "familiarization" flight to Sian. However, I was judged competent to handle the command responsibilities of the left seat, and my first trip as captain proved to be familiar — we got lost again!

Finding Sian, a city of a half-million people, was not easy. Flying the first few hundred miles northward was no problem as Chungking had a strong radio beacon and could be visually iden-

tified by its location at the confluence of the Yangtze and Chia-ling rivers. But 253 miles almost directly north of Chungking a 45-degree turn to the east had to be made at Nancheng for the final leg to the ancient capital.

Recognition of being over Nancheng was critical. To continue much farther north was to strike the Tsinling Shan mountain range which had peaks higher than the altitude limits of the C-47. Yet the small city was indistinguishable from the countryside at night, and its homing beacon was only a kilocycle or two different from a stronger station 100 or so miles to the west. Most pilots calculated the winds aloft, figured the time, and turned right when they guessed they were over Nancheng.

When seen in daylight from the air, Sian appeared as a vast walled city of predominantly brown-peaked structures surrounded by a flat, broad valley. Just north of the city flowed the Wei Ho River and along its banks ran the Lunghai Railway, then immobilized by the Japanese forces to the east.

On our first trips to Sian we brought in drums of gasoline, landed on a dirt runway and reported in to an operations office housed in a tent. Our return cargo was composed of raw conscript troops designed to be trained in Kunming for the defense of that area. Mostly young-

sters in padded blue uniforms, they stood silent and patient in the snow waiting to be loaded into the transports. They carried no baggage or arms as each man climbed aboard with only a bowl and a pair of chopsticks.

We loaded the Chinese toboggan fashion, motioning them in the cabin section and then seating them on the floor facing the tail of the plane with each man sitting between the knees of the one behind him. This arrangement permitted 40 to 45 passengers to be carried on each flight. Then followed a procedure we had found to be most necessary.

We would walk to the rear of the plane and stand before the double row of intent faces. No need to call for their attention. They watched everything with childish curiosity.

We would point to the empty five-gallon can at our feet, look up and grimace as we rubbed our stomachs. Then we would bend over the container as if regurgitating (with sound effects). Their nods and grins told you that they understood.

The vast majority of the inhabitants of rural western China were illiterate, but by no means stupid. The Pointy-talkies we carried were virtually useless. These were the little books the U.S. Army had issued us listing common phrases in English opposite the translation in Chinese characters. Of course, we learned a few words of the language but largely depended on sign language or pantomime. If we could demonstrate what was wanted the Chinese could usually comply with the request without the least shred of understanding why it was either wanted or needed.

A story (possibly apocryphal) about a flight crew that bailed out that winter in the Lolo Mountains northwest of Kunming illustrates the point. Descending the mountain they came upon a small village where they were received by the curious but not unfriendly inhabitants. The captain pantomimed that they wanted water, which was quickly brought to them in a battered pail. The officer, who had been indoctrinated with the necessity of drinking only boiled

water in such circumstances, pointed to the open fire outside a hut and indicated it should be heated.

While the villagers watched in fascinated wonder, the officer then set the pail in the snow to cool. After the airmen had satisfied their thirst the aircraft commander gestured that they would like something to eat. There were smiles and nods all around as two women hurried off to fry a pan of eggs and then to chill them in the snow before serving them to the fliers.

Later when we were flying into Poseh (in southern China about 200 miles north of Hanoi), I had a similar experience with sign language. With my aircraft grounded because of a mechanical problem, I had left my co-pilot to see to the repairs and hitched a ride into the city. Because my wife had a special fondness for shoes, I thought I would buy her a pair as a souvenir of my visit.

However, I couldn't find anyone who spoke English. I stopped an elderly Chinese I took to be a business man. I first pointed to my shoes. Then with both hands I indicated the long hair of a woman and the curve of her breasts. He seemed to understand immediately, leading me past several shops down the street before motioning me toward a shop's open door.

I smiled my thanks and looked in. We were standing in front of a tonsorial parlor where several women barbers were cutting the hair of men customers.

Living as we were in an American compound perched on a hill above the airfield and the village of Chanyi, it is hardly surprising that we learned little of the Chinese language. There were about 500 of us, enlisted personnel and officers, in the 1342nd AAF base unit commanded by a tough little lieutenant colonel with an erratic disposition. Nevertheless, he was not without a keen interest in the welfare of his men.

I remember one morning preparing to depart for Chiu Lung Po, a small airport on the outskirts of Chungking. The single runway, which was less than 2,000 feet long, had been carved out of the side of a hill. It had no control tower. When



CHINESE girl smiles as she helps her mother prepare food for the family table.

you approached the field a Chinese attendant ran out with either a red flag to wave you off or a green flag to approve your landing.

The shortness of the strip was not the only hazard. If you flew a base leg down the Yangtze River gorge to approach the field from the east, you had to watch for the steel cables the Chinese had stretched across the stream as a hindrance to the Japanese dive bombers. To come in from the west you had to skim the top of a hill, dump full flaps and pull the throttles all of the way back. To overrun the strip landing to the east meant you went into the river; the same error landing to the west meant hitting the side of the hill.

We were about to start the engines when the colonel drove up in his Jeep accompanied by two airmen. I stepped out of the airplane to salute as he approached.

"I think you're overloaded," he said. "I better have a look."

When he came aboard he studied the 100-pound sacks of white, refined sugar tied down in the cabin and consigned to the American and Chinese authorities in Chungking. The VIP shipment was the

first stateside sugar we had seen since arriving in Chanyi.

"Yes, I would judge you are two sacks overweight," the colonel said, giving me a wink. He then called the two enlisted men to remove the sugar to his Jeep. "I'll take it to the mess halls for safe-keeping," he said in parting.

Food was a primary concern to us, particularly the craving for sweets. The only mess hall supplies we got from home were ketchup, coffee and powdered milk. All other food stuffs were provided by the Kuomintang government from their limited sources. (The cooks, mess attendants and waiters were all Chinese.) We had an abundance of rice, bean sprouts and a kind of spinach we called seaweed. Occasionally, we had beef, usually ground into hamburger because of its toughness, rarely chicken and very seldom pork. By POW standards we ate like the jet-setters, and crews from India, where the diet was almost all canned or dehydrated foods, relished our meals for the first few days. After that the American palate rebelled.

One mystery we never solved: The plentitude of eggs without ever coming across a live chicken. The only chicken I ever saw was a rooster that had been killed and was draped atop a coffin being carried in a funeral procession. We sometimes had eggs three times a day when we were away from our home field, as they were the only food dispensed at the flight line messes. For months after the war I never touched an egg.

Sources of recreation also were limited. The village of Chanyi offered nothing for us. Some halfhearted gambling took place in our hostel quarters; however, in the absence of much to do with any winnings but to send them home, it seemed rather pointless. One of our principal diversions was improvising an evening snack from K-rations left over from a flight, an item or two from the black market, and a food parcel from home. The cooking in our room was done by setting a metal canteen cup on each side of a blowtorch flame.

Friends flying the Hump from India often would bring us canned goods if they knew their destination was Chanyi. Most greatly appreciated was fruit. Louis Labe, now a Denver real estate man whom I had first known when we both were instructors at the Army primary flying school in Corsicana, Texas, once brought from his base in Chabua, India, a gallon can of sliced pineapple. Two of my roommates and I ate the whole thing in one evening.

Another popular pastime was reading, which we found was a better opiate to relieve boredom and homesickness than alcohol. A local sweet wine called jing bao (Chinese for air raid) juice was available, and each man in an air crew after every mission received two ounces of whiskey which he generally (against regulations) poured into a bottle for later consumption.

(The two ounces of whiskey was a standard combat ration as we were in a war zone even though we saw very little of the enemy. Once flying the Hump I passed three Japanese fighter aircraft high overhead and going in the opposite direction. The Japanese also on a few occasions raided the Chanyi airfield by slipping an aircraft at night into our traffic pattern and then hitting us with antipersonnel bombs. During the 1944 Christmas season we spent much of several nights in slit trenches because of such raids, but only one man was killed and two or three others injured.)

However, a China hangover could be traumatic, partly because of our diet and the altitude. No, better a book of an evening to whisk you away from the cracked walls of your quarters, the sound of rats feasting on your toothpaste and the odor of charcoal smoke seeping from your gasoline-barrel stove.

In our literary circle nonfiction had no appeal. Our tastes ran strongly to mysteries. Westerns, adventure yarns, all in the general category of escapist reading. Such novels were hard to obtain in our remote location. Consequently, a barter system developed in which you traded one you had read for one you had not. Of course, some books had a higher exchange value than others, and might bring two for one or

better.

The entertainment highlight of the week was the Sunday night movie shown in the base chapel. Our popular and understanding chaplain, Capt. Charles F. Bruce, arranged for the film to be exhibited after the evening religious services, thus assuring a packed congregation. Nevertheless, he did not take advantage of the situation, but kept his sermon short and leaned heavily on hymn singing.

We had only one projector so that after every reel was shown the film had to be rewound and the next reel inserted. There were always other delays in the performance, because we were at the end of the distribution line and the film was worn and brittle by the time it reached us, resulting in frequent breaks. But there were no complaints.

We were quite a well-behaved audience. A pretty girl on the screen might rate a few whistles, but no demonstration. What really aroused the spectators and set off loud "ohs" and "ahs" was a restaurant or kitchen scene in which sumptuous food was predominantly displayed.

With the coming of spring we had less and less time to worry about diversions. We were extending our air routes in every direction as munitions and supplies poured in from India, and we were flying the Hump ourselves when the flow slackened. We flew north to Cheng-tu, the beautiful old university city and cultural center, where a wide 12,000-foot runway had been built in the fertile Szechwan basin to accommodate the B-29 bombers which we supported with gasoline and bombs.

On a different type mission we flew some 400 miles east-northeast of Chikiang (like many other Chinese cities the name has more than one spelling) where the American air base there was under a heavy attack. We brought in a mixed cargo of troops and pack horses which had been pulled out of the Chinese Sixth Army in Burma. Each C-47 transport carried four horses and four Chinese soldier-handlers, who were tough, well-armed veterans.

Cleated planks were put down on the

floor of the cabin and poles were hung along the sides to protect the aircraft's windows. We had some qualms about how the animals would react to being airborne but outside of one fractious horse that kicked out a window, they caused little trouble. (As a matter of fact, some of us former farm boys found that the odor of horses and manure brought back a pleasant sense of nostalgia.)

There was one incident, however, that could have been tragic. On one of these flights to Chikiang, the co-pilot left the cockpit to check on how things were going. Opening the door to the cabin he was horrified to see that four soldiers had built a small fire at the back of the airplane and were brewing tea.

Lt. Walter Oden, a slim young man from South Carolina who was a next-door roommate in my hostel area, had an even more harrowing experience. It occurred while we were flying Chinese troops (without horses) to the South China city of Nanning, less than 100 miles from the Gulf of Tonkin. Oden's aircraft hit a severe thunderstorm flying down the river valley approaching the city. At times it appeared the violent turbulence would flip the transport on its back.

When the lieutenant got the airplane safely down the PSP (pierced steel planking) runway, the three men in the crew were greatly relieved. They stepped down from the aircraft with wide grateful smiles on their faces. As they did they were grabbed by their soldier-passengers who pushed them roughly against the wing of the airplane. The leader of the group snarled something at Oden while raising his rifle to fire.

By great good fortune, a Chinese officer who spoke English saw the commotion and hurried to the transport. He quickly ordered the soldier to lower his rifle, and then learned the cause of his anger. The Chinese passengers had thought the rough ride had been deliberate, that the pilot had maneuvered the plane to scare them.

"I sure thought I had had it," Oden told me later, but dismissed the affair

with a grin. Not so the American and Chinese authorities when they learned of it. A Kuomintang enlisted man threatening to kill a U.S. officer crested waves that rolled all the way from New Delhi to Chungking.

By some strange twist of logic (probably Chinese), the matter was resolved by Oden being awarded the American Bronze Star. When we asked him for what, he said, "For not getting shot."

WANT ADS

WANT ADS in Ex-CBI Roundup cost 15 cents a word, minimum \$3.00 [for 20 words or less] per insertion. Copy with payment must be received 10 days before first of month preceding month of issue.

B-24 LIBERATOR books, posters, desk accessories, jewelry, bi-annual historical journal, models. Write Liberator Club, P.O. Box 841, San Diego, Calif. 92112. 10, 12, 2-3p

WANTED — Info on Lt. Col. Gerald Johnson. Supervised passengers on C-46 leaving Karachi mid-1944 for U.S. Ted McConnell, Spruce Grove, Box 368B, RD 2, Oxford, Pa. 19363. 10-79-2p

HIGHEST PRICES for good standing timber: Walnut, White Oak, Ash species. Bill Towe (CBI veteran), Company Buyer, 2308 C Avenue, New Castle, Ind. 47362. Phone 317-529-6378. 10-79-2p

AIRBORNE/ELITE books and unit histories our specialty. OP books on CBI. Free list. The Battery Book Shop, P.O. Box 3107A, Nashville, Tenn. 37219. 10-79-6p

80th DEPOT Repair Squadron — Need witnesses to verify sandstorm at Karachi, India, in 1944, that lasted two weeks and to verify treatment of eyes for sometime after. Wallace K. Million, Millstream Apt. 21, Crossville, Tenn. 38555. 10-79-1p

WANTED — To buy copy of 1961 book about the B-29, "Journey of the Giants," by Major Gene Gurney, USAF. Thomas H. Daley, 18 Spinnet Dr., Rochester, N.Y. 14625. 10-79-1f

NOW YOU can use the Want Ads to reach other CBIs. Buy, sell or exchange; it's your way to reach more than 4,700 subscribers. Try it! 7-79-1f

VINYL DECALS of CBI emblem are now available for application to INSIDE of windows and windshield glass. FACE-DOWN decals are priced at 50c each; FACE-UP decals are still 5 for \$1. Ex-CBI Roundup, P.O. Box 102, Laurens, Iowa 50554. 7-79-1f

ATTENTION architects, do-it-yourselfers, interior and exterior designers! Fancy butt red cedar decorative shingles; nine patterns — octagonal, arrow, square, fish-scale, diagonal, half cove, diamond, round, hexagonal. Call or write for literature. Dick Young's Puget Sound Shake Brokers, 12301 218th Pl. S.E., Suite 711, Snohomish, WA 98290. Ph. 206-568-6642. (Ex-CBI, 7th Bomb).

Valley of Sun Hosts CBlers

The Valley of the Sun Basha of Arizona was host to more than 650 persons at the 32nd annual reunion, China-Burma-India Veterans Association, Aug. 8-11, 1979, at The Registry Resort in Scottsdale.

Reunion chairman Anthony "Tony" Colombo, co-chairmen Joseph Pohorsky and Harold Kretchmar, members of their committee and Basha Commander M. J. Hollman were in charge of arrangements. There were tours for



AMONG new officers being sworn in following Saturday night banquet are, left to right, Ethel G. Yavorsky, national commander; Victor M. Tamashunas, senior vice commander; Lud Baumgarten, judge advocate; and Clarence Bellamy, provost marshal.



BUDGET report is presented by Chuck Mitchell at business session. At right of podium are Bill Godfrey, 1979 national commander; Ethel Yavorsky, who succeeds him; Ken Schwittau, adjutant and finance officer; and Les Dencker, who was the first national commander.



AWARD OF MERIT is presented to Robert D. "Bob" Thomas by Charles Rose, 1978 recipient of the honor.

early arrivals, and the reunion officially opened with registration Wednesday afternoon and a cocktail party that night.

Business sessions were held three mornings, starting Thursday. Also included in the program were a memorial service, Past Commanders Luncheon, Puja Parade and Dinner, and the Commanders Dinner and Ball which closed the reunion Saturday night.

Wayne Murphy of the Phoenix area, who since retirement in 1973 has devoted most of his time to research and to addressing various groups on matters vital to national security, received the Americanism Award.

The CBIVA Award of Merit, also presented at the banquet, went to Robert D. Thomas of Philadelphia, Pa., a past national commander. Several China War Memorial Medals were presented by Lt. Gen. Wen Ha-siung, chief of the procurement and services mission of the Republic of China in Washington, D.C.

Hot Springs, Ark., with headquarters at the Arlington Hotel, was selected as site of the 1981 reunion. Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was picked for 1982. Ken Spears reported on plans for the 1980 reunion, to

be held at the Sheraton Twin Towers in Orlando, Fla.

In the final business session Saturday, Ethel G. Yavorsky of Poland, Ohio, was chosen as the new national commander to succeed Bill Godfrey of Las Vegas, Nev. A graduate registered nurse who served in India from March 1942 to late 1944, remaining in the Army Nurse Corps until 1957, she is the first woman to head the CBIVA. She also served in Japan during the Korean Conflict, from 1953 through 1955.

Victor M. Tamashunas of Ames, Iowa, was named senior vice commander; Lud Baumgarten of Woodstock, N.Y., judge advocate; and Clarence Bellamy of Michigan City, Ind., provost marshal. Other officers were appointed by the new commander.

Names and addresses of both elected and appointed officers are as follows: National commander, Ethel G. Yavorsky, 868 North Main St., Poland, Ohio 44514; senior vice commander, Victor M. Tamashunas, 1821 Maxwell Ave., Ames, Iowa 50010; judge advocate, Ludwig S. Baumgarten, Box 476B Baumgarten Road, Woodstock N.Y. 12498; provost marshal, Clarence Bellamy, Shady Oak Dr., Michiana Park, Michigan City, Ind. 46360; junior vice commander northwest, Ted R. Goldstaub, 7015 Nottingham Dr. N.E., Salem, Ore. 97303; junior vice commander west, Kenneth A. Marks, 40815 Oregon Trail, Cherry Valley, Calif. 92223; junior vice commander southwest, Charles R. Delancy, 1611 Opossum Circle, El Paso, Tex. 79927; junior vice commander north, Raymond W. Jueniger, 308 East Park Dr., Belleville, Ill. 62223; junior vice commander Great Lakes, Theodore H. Price, 825 Brookfield Rd., Kettering, Ohio 45429; junior vice commander southeast, Leonard H. McLaren, 143 S.W. 51 Terr., Cape Coral, Fla. 33904; junior vice commander south, James D. Thompson, 5123 Stallworth Dr., Nashville, Tenn. 37220; junior vice commander east, Ross K. Miller, 8 Lockwood Dr., Roselle, N.J. 07203; adjutant and finance officer, Kenneth Schwittau, 13580 Serene Lane, Brookfield, Wis. 53005; assistant adjutant, Vera Seder, 5048 North 32nd St.,



SNAKE charmer, Clarence Bellamy (second from left) of Michigan City, Ind., joins members of Zaribah Shrine Oriental Band for impromptu concert following Puja Parade.



GUADALUPE dancers from area south of Phoenix entertain CBlers following dinner.



STILL young at heart, CBlers dance at Commanders Ball following the Saturday night dinner.

Milwaukee, Wis. 53209; public relations officer, Edwin Krause, 3440 S. 11th St., Milwaukee, Wis. 53215; service officer, Harriet M. Hazinski, 306 W. Norman Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45405; chaplain, Rev. Edward R. Glavin, 156 Main St., Amsterdam, N.Y. 12010; historian, Kathryne S. Abner, 1467 Forbes Road, Lexington, Ky. 40505; surgeon general, Dr. Gerald S. Maresh, 4061 S. Dexter St., Englewood, Colo. 80110; and immediate past commander, B. F. Godfrey, 6128 Fairwood Circle, Las Vegas, Nev. 89107.

Flying Tigers of 14th Air Force meet in Asheville

More than 600 attended the 32nd annual convention of the Flying Tigers of the 14th Air Force Association, held Aug. 1-4 at Grove Park Inn, Asheville, N.C.

Arrangements made by Leon and Dottie Williams of Black Mountain, N.C., included a cocktail party at the western residence of the North Carolina Governor, tours of historic Asheville, a fashion show, Blue Ridge Parkway tour, visit to Biltmore House and Deepark, and special entertainment for dinner meetings.

Scholarships and awards were presented at the Saturday night banquet. Anna Chennault and Brig. Gen. James McAdoo, currently commanding general of the 14th Air Force at Dobbins AFB, Ga., presented the Chennault Trophy to the 326th Military Aircraft Squadron, 512th Military Airlift Wing, Dover AFB, Del.

Principal speaker was Ambassador Kohsin Shah of the Republic of China.



PAST PRESIDENT Jack Hild (right) presents the Past President's Cup to Lt. Gen. T. Alan Bennett, retiring president of the 14th Air Force Association. Looking on at left is Leon Williams of Black Mountain, N.C., convention chairman.



PRESENTATION of the Chennault Trophy is made by Anna Chennault and James E. McAdoo, currently commanding general of the 14th Air Force at Dobbins AFB, Ga., to the 326th Military Airlift Squadron, 512th Military Airlift Wing, Dover AFB, Del. Accepting are Col. Dave Webber, wing commander, and Lt. Col. Robert Fean, commanding officer of the 326th. At table in foreground are Dottie Williams of Black Mountain, N.C., and Konsin Shah, Ambassador from the Republic of China.



FOR the first time since WW2, Clarence S. White of North Little Rock, Ark., visits with Virginia Fitzgerald (right) of Helotes, Tex., at Asheville. Mrs. White is at left. White, who was then with the Chinese Combat Command, and Miss Fitzgerald, who was General Chennault's secretary, played leading roles in the GI production of "Oklahoma" throughout the Kunming area in 1945. White entertained at the Scholarship and Awards Banquet with "Oklahoma from Kunming."

Shah was introduced by Thomas Corcoran.

Leonard S. Hookailo of Bradford, Mass., was elected as the new president, succeeding Maj. Gen. T. Alan Bennett of San Diego, Calif. Other officers elected

for the coming year are Wayne G. Johnson of Silver Bay, Minn., executive vice president; Milt Miller of New York, N.Y., vice president-Journal; Don Van Cleve of Irving, Tex., vice president-membership; Malcolm Rosholt of Rosholt, Wis., vice president-pictorial; Duayne R. Huston of Dubuque, Iowa,

secretary; Eugene L. Boyars, Selden, N.Y., treasurer; Leon Williams, Al Johnson and Harold Crawford, board members.

Omer "Dutch" Wolfe will be in charge of the 1980 convention, to be held July 31, Aug. 1 and 2, at the MGM Grand in Reno, Nev.

IT HAPPENED IN CBI

This column will appear from time to time, with CBI happenings related by subscribers. In general it will feature those contributions too long for our "To the Editors" columns and too short for headed articles. We hope you enjoy them.

Boo-Boos for the Veep

During the summer of 1944, Vice President Henry Wallace visited the Field Artillery Training Center in Yunnan at the village of Kan Hai Tze, north of Kunming.

It was a day that Murphy's Law lovers will appreciate. If an outfit ever looked like it couldn't chew gum and walk at the same time it was our gang. Also, we were aided in the series of boo-boos by the Chinese artillery.

The fouled-up day began when the Vice President, accompanied by a 14th AF colonel, opened the front door to our headquarters and no one called "Attention." Our flustered exec did his best to smooth out that military courtesy faux pas while showing him around the offices.

The big boo-boo came later when the Veep was escorted to an observation post to watch an artillery shoot in which we were to demonstrate our prowess at training the Chinese Army to use American 75mm pack howitzers. Several distant hills had been designated as targets which our boys had lime-marked. The Chinese artillery's guns had been positioned in defilade along an eroded valley a few miles away. Our

boys helped the Chinese set up the guns and had checked to make sure that everything was in readiness before leaving. They departed the scene to leave the final act of pulling the lanyards to fire the guns up to our honored ally. The Veep arrived and our general gave him a run down on what to expect. This was to be a simulated combat situation and the vaunted Chinese artillery was going to blast the Japs from their entrenchments on the forward slope of the hills.

The first gun fired and the round burst short. The second was too far to the left of the target and the third went over the hill and was never heard from again!

Unknown to our people, the Chinese had changed the gun sightings and some powder charges.

After batting .000 our red-faced general mumbled something about the Chinese "must not have leveled the gun sight bubbles."

The Veep grinned sympathetically and mentioned something about the heck of an erosion problem the valley had.

Undoubtedly, he departed with the opinion that the American war effort could be enhanced if we were on the other side!

MAG MAGNESS,
10645 Alleshien Ave.,
Orlando, Fla. 32807

**Tell All Your
CBI Friends About
Ex-CBI Roundup**

They Met in CBI

The story of CBI friendships "that turned into romance and wedding bells" was told in the July issue. Here are others who have responded to Round-up's request for information:

KENNETH O. BOTTS, Batavia, N.Y. — "My wife, 1st Lt. Lillian Stull, was a nurse at the 20th General Hospital at Margherita, Assam, India. I was a first lieutenant in the Army QMC assigned to the 327th QM Depot Supply Co. at Ledo, Assam. We met May 18, 1945, at choir rehearsal in the chapel at the 20th General.

"Our chaplain was 1st Lt. William Shamburger from Texas. He is now pastor of the First Baptist Church, Tyler, Tex. He has his D.D. degree and has been pastor of this church many years. Our choir director was 1st Lt. Nelson Gable, QMC, who just recently retired as director of music in the school district at Abington, Pa., a suburb of Philadelphia.

"We were married March 4, 1946, at the First Christian Church, Davenport, Iowa.

"We have one daughter, Kay Ann, who is a registered nurse on the staff of the Moline Public Hospital, Moline, Ill. She and her mother are graduates of the same school of nursing, Moline Public Hospital."

WILLAM D. MASTIN, Chattanooga, Tenn. — "Catherine Matthews joined the 142nd General Hospital as a nurse when it was formed in Baltimore in 1942. This unit left San Francisco in May 1942 for the Fiji Islands in the South Pacific; about 26 months later it was rotated to Calcutta, India. She returned to the U.S. in April 1945 with 35 months foreign duty, and was stationed at an Army hospital in Richmond, Va., until she got out of service in late 1945.

"Bill Mastin was in Headquarters CBI Air Service Command from October 1943 to August 1944. This service was in Delhi until headquarters was moved to

Hastings Mill, 30 miles north of Calcutta, about April 1944. Bill was transferred to Bengal Air Depot in August 1944 and worked with the engine overhaul operation that started production a short time later.

"They met when Bill went down to see a friend in the 142nd in October 1944. They were married in Seattle, Wash., on 31 January 1946, the day after Bill landed and the first day he had seen Catherine in civilian clothes! They have a daughter, 29, and a son, 28; they have heard lots about their parents taking trips around the world — and meeting on the other side."

COL. ELMER E. WELTY, Pompano Beach, Fla. — "My wife, then Lyla R. Hoffman, and I met in Assam during the war. I was executive officer of Advance Section 2, which later became Intermediate Section with headquarters in Chabua, APO 629. My wife was with the Red Cross and at the time I met her was in charge of the Red Cross canteen at NASAC (Northern Air Service Area Command).

"On 14 August 1945 I received orders to return to the States by air to attend a Far Eastern Affairs study course at Yale University. My wife had received prior orders to return for R&R so we both left Assam on 18 August 1945 for Calcutta. I flew on to New York; my wife was on the first ship returning from CBI and landed in New York in October. After reporting to the ARC in Washington she decided to leave the service and returned to her home in California.

"After I completed my course at Yale my orders were changed and I was ordered to report to the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers (SCAP) in Tokyo. Enroute to Japan I met my wife-to-be and we were married 23 February 1946, a few days prior to my departure. My wife came to Japan in June and we lived there continuously until my retirement from active participation in my law firm there.

"I left active duty with the Army in July 1949 with the rank of colonel, to commence the practice of law in Japan. I continued in Army Reserve activities, retiring in September 1966 after 38 years of active and reserve service. I was engaged in the active practice of law in

Japan from 1949 until my retirement 1 January 1978."

COL. and MRS. ORR Y. POTEBYNA, Seattle, Wash. — (Information taken from the Capitol Hill Times, Seattle.)

Colonel Potebnya was born in Russia in 1919, and reared in Manchuria and North China. He arrived in Seattle in 1938 and managed to get his parents over on the last ship to land in Seattle before Pearl Harbor. He worked as a packer and provisioner until 1942 when he was drafted into the Army and sent to China, "right back home," after attending O.C.S. at Fort Benning, Ga. He spent four years in service in CBI, much of it as a logistics and supply officer with the Chinese New First Army in Burma.

Stephanie Kordek, who came from Massachusetts and trained at the Rhode Island Hospital, served as a lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps in CBI. The two were married in April 1945 at Myitkyina, North Burma, and they honeymooned on a houseboat in Kashmir before Potebnya finished his last year of service in the area.

Following the war, Potebnya alternated assignments with the U.S. Air Force in Colorado Springs, the Soviet Union, West Germany, Czechoslovakia and Washington, D.C., with civilian employment as an instructor of Russian at the University of Washington and

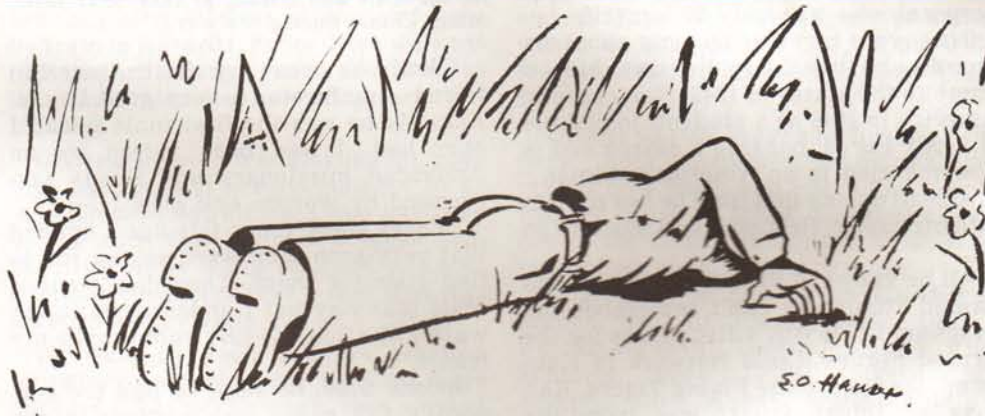
manager of DuPont Far East, Inc., in Hong Kong and Taiwan. After retiring from the Air Force with the rank of colonel in 1963, he settled down to civilian employment in Seattle, first as curator of the Frye Art Museum and then as a realtor. He now has his own real estate office.

MAURICE AND TANIA FEIGAL, Grand Marais, Minn. — (Information taken from the Minneapolis Tribune.)

The Feigals own and operate a motel known as Thomsonite Beach on the shore of Lake Superior, 4½ miles west of Grand Marais. They own 500 feet of shoreline which is one of the few places in the world where thomsonites (opaque, semi-precious gemstones) can be found and the place where, scientists say, they are the most colorful. Tania uses these stones to make unique hand-crafted jewelry.

The Feigals met and were married in Tientsin, China, 33 years ago.

Tania was born in Harbin, Manchuria, of parents who were refugees from the Russian revolution. Her mother was a Russian nurse, her father a colonel for the czar's White Russian army. Maurice trained war dogs for the U.S. Marines and then worked in Tientsin as a steward for a candy and baked goods company. Tania was a bookkeeper for the same company.



IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT - WE COULD SEE THE JAPANESE PLANES
CLEARLY OVERHEAD, FLYING IN PERFECT FORMATION.
- (IMPRESSION OF AIR RAID ON YUNNAN) -

WARTIME cartoon from a service publication, submitted to
Roundup by Paul E. Brock.

Lost: one good GI buddy of 34 years ago; contact M.K.

The following article by a United Press International writer, which appeared in daily newspapers throughout the country, is about the search being made by an Ex-CBI Roundup subscriber. Roundup carried a letter from Kan on the same subject several years ago, but without results. Perhaps one of our newer subscribers can help him.

By JACK V. FOX
United Press International

LOS ANGELES — "LOST: ONE GOOD GI BUDDY OF 34 YEARS AGO. ANSWERS TO NAME OF STUART. MAY BE IN THE MIDWEST. COULD BE WORKING FOR A RADIO STATION. IF FOUND CONTACT MICHAEL KAN THROUGH UPI LOS ANGELES. REWARD: GRATITUDE."

That's the want ad that Michael Kan would like to see run in hundreds of American newspapers to help him find a friend he made in a Chinese town on the Burma Road during the closing years of World War II.

Kan then was an 18-year-old Chinese boy fascinated by the GIs and he became a close pal of a U.S. Air Force corporal who was only 20 himself.

They were together for only about six months and then the soldier was shipped home to the states in 1945. Kan came to America in 1948 as a student, joined the U.S. Air Force, became a citizen and is now married to an American woman.

And all during that time he has tried to find his buddy. He hasn't had much to go on.

All he knows is that the corporal was named Stuart (he can't remember the first name.) He was a disc jockey for the Armed Forces Radio Network in Kunming, the base of the Flying Tigers. Kan says he thinks Stuart was from the Middle West. And he has a 34-year-old photograph of the two of them together in China.

Why is Kan so eager and determined to find Stuart?



M. M. KAN and friend, at lake near Kunming, China, during the war.

"Well, he was my first American friend. And he was a very good friend. Actually he was the first male friend I ever had. I had been raised by an American missionary and I was surrounded by women and girls.

"I met some other GIs but I noticed that very soon they were asking me to find girls for them. They didn't put it quite that way but I understood. Stuart wasn't like that. He just wanted to be my friend."

At one time, he said, he had the corporal's full name and address in the United States but a pickpocket stole the notebook in which he had jotted it down.

Kan's original name was Kan Man Loh. He was three months old when his father died, his mother remarried and

he was adopted by Cornelia Morgan, an American missionary and granddaughter of John Tyler Morgan who served 30 years as a senator from Alabama.

When he was 18, Kan began hanging around the Air Force base, first in his home town of Tsuyung and later in Kunming. He got an unofficial job as an interpreter and from those early years he says he decided he wanted to come to America.

His reason for thinking Stuart was from the Middle West was his accent — or lack of it. Kan says he heard the voices of New Yorkers, Texans, Southerners and New Englanders and none sounded like Stuart.

Kan spent four years in the Air Force. He had an export-import business for 10 years. He works now in the women's

shoe department of a Los Angeles department store and lives in the suburb of La Habra with his American wife.

He has tried to find his friend through everyone from President Carter to congressmen, senators and the Air Force. He even tried the Federal Communications Commission because he thought Stuart might have continued a career in radio.

So Kan wrote to United Press International for help.

"Why is (it) one has to commit crime or to do something daring before the newspeople will do any write-up? I see and read of people united quite frequently so why not me? If you can help I will be so grateful to you," he said.

Okay, Mike Kan. Here's your want ad.

IT HAPPENED IN CBI

988 Signal Serv. Bn.

Left the States May 10, 1943, on British transport Mauretania with 8,000 troops aboard. I was a B-25 specialist unassigned and unattached. We landed in Bombay after 45 days at sea, and went by train to Karachi. From there we went to Ramgarh where I took a short course in communications, sending and receiving.

General Stilwell was starting his push into Burma, and needed soldiers to go with Chinese battalions. I was assigned to the American-trained Chinese 38th Division. After being outfitted in Ledo, we proceeded to relieve a unit that was surrounded by Japs.

We went by Jeep until we reached Shingbuiyang. We were held up there until we could get through, then started off on foot through the jungles with Kachin guides. After two days we reached them and relieved them of their duties. They returned to base in bad shape with fever and dysentery. With

pack mules we started off and went through Suprabum, Wallawbum, Shadazup, Myitkyina, Bhamo, Lashio on a flanking movement. I'm sure some of my buddies could remember those rough monsoon days. We crossed paths with Merrill's Marauders, British Chindits, Kachin Rangers and many others.

Later we were flown over the Hump in an old C-46 loaded with soldiers, mules and high octane fuel; landed in Kunming, China. We were regrouping back to original strength when the war ended. Then we were flown to India where we left Nov. 17, 1945, on the U.S. Marine Panther, arriving in New York Dec. 18.

Thanks to your magazine for bringing back those cherished memories, no matter how tough and rough they were. I never cease to thank God that I was one of the fortunate ones to be able to read about it in your magazine.

Would like to hear from Cal Hipp, Macon, Ga.; Lt. Ewing, Tulsa, Okla.; Ed Smallcomb, Boston, Mass.; Red Schmidt, Iowa; Virgil Streck, St. Joseph, Mo.; Kenny Wong, Chinese interpreter, and all my good Chinese friends from Taiwan.

EDMOND J. TROSCLAIR,
1332 Prentiss Ave.,
New Orleans, La. 70122

301st Service Gp.

● The 1752nd and 1753rd Ordnance Supply & Maintenance Company, 301st Air Service Group, will have a reunion in October, 1979. It will be at the Holiday Inn, 5000 W. 127th St., Alsip, Ill., Oct. 19-21. Anyone wanting to attend the reunion, please contact me at 128 Amhurst Road, Cottage Hills, Ill. 62018. Phone 618-259-6934.

GENE ZIMMERMAN,
Cottage Hills, Ill.

330th Engineers

● Was with the 330th Engineers, Headquarters Company, and saw Howard Greenwald's letter in the March issue. I drove for Road headquarters and was known as Smokey Lee. I've often wondered what happened to Red Conners, Wright and Tommy, the old members of the Bullfight Inn; also Dusty Destepano from New Orleans. Let's hear from 330th guys.

BOB HOLMES,
554 Broadway Ext.,
E. McKeesport, Pa. 15035

On the Move

● Since departing CBI theater after WW2, went back in 1950 to Japan. Then the Korean conflict 1950 to August 1953 (25th Infantry, 27 Regiment, also 187th Abn. RCT). Another shuttle to the Mid-



KACHIN Rangers and SSgt. James Fletcher of Atlanta, Ga., are shown building a bamboo shelter in the Naga Hills of Burma in 1943. Photo by Frank Cancellare, war correspondent.

East 1956, then 1957-58 Malaysia, 1960 in Laos, then 1963-69 in Vietnam, then Africa and Mid-East. Indefinite motion. Looking forward towards what? Retirement? No, I'd rather keep moving. My deepest respect and regards to the ethnic hill tribal people with whom I have had the privilege of working through the years in South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Far East. I wish them all well.

WALTER BOYLING,
Walnut Creek, Calif.

Richard Mulhern

● Richard C. Mulhern, 60, a Chicago Fire Department lieutenant, died June 8. He served in CBI during WW 2.

(From a newspaper clipping sent in by J. P. Coogan, Chicago, Ill.)

Russell Ostermeier

● Lt. Col. Russell L. Ostermeier, 74, of Portland, Ore., died May 19. During WW2 he served three years in the Signal Corps in India. Following the war he served as liaison between the Republic of China and the People's Republic of China. He also was a veteran of the Korean war. His wife survives.

(From an Oregon Journal clipping sent in by G. L. Hodgkinson, Cannon Beach, Ore.)

APO 490

● Was a flight radio operator flying out of Mohanbari (APO 490); later out of Tezgaon. I have lost track of one of my best friends, Cpl. Charles Givens. If anyone knows of his whereabouts, please contact me.

HENRY A. KIEP,
1861 Raritan Rd.,
Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076



VIEW down the main street of Asansol. Officer in foreground is Bob Sturdevant of the 9th Bomb Squadron, 7th Bomb Group. Photo from Arthur E. "Harny" Harniman.

Colonel Munson

● Would appreciate assistance in locating Col. Russell Munson, who was my commanding officer in the ATC at Karachi and later at New Delhi. He was with the UAL prior to WW2, and came from Denver, Colo.

HARRY B. HOPPIN,
165 Bedford, St.,
Burlington, Mass. 01803

3169 Ordnance

● Served in CBI with the 3169th Ord. (MAM) from October 1943 to January 1946; spent 18 months at Ramgarh Training Center. Started as company clerk and finished up as first sergeant. Have enjoyed Ex-CBI Roundup for many years; you're doing an excellent job.

RAY HARTSELL, O.D., P.A.
Kinston, N.C.

Last Troopship

● Was in CBI in 1945-46, at Karachi, New Delhi and Calcutta. Helped close the CBI theater down. Came back on the Marine Jumper, last troopship from the CBI. I have a complete roster of the boat.

PAUL H. BRUCE,
Wilmington, N.C.

9th Combat Cargo

● Would like to contact any of the guys in — or from — the 9th Combat Cargo Squadron of Warazup, which then went to Myitkyina as the 330th and



DURING 1943 USO tour of China, Ann Sheridan signs her name on the cargo door of the "Fujiama Foo Foo," the original C-47 based in Chungking. With her is Capt. Jack Champion, General Stilwell's pilot, who died last year after spending 32 years as a pilot for Delta Airlines. Photo by Jim Shannon, also a member of the "Fujiama Foo Foo" crew and a Delta captain for 28 years.

331st Troop Carrier Squadrons. I would especially like to contact someone who has snapshots of the area and of the guys. I would gladly pay for prints. Would also like news of my tentmates, Charley Segnar, Ernie Duke and Weldin (Bill) Read, and my ops officers, Captain Runyan and Arnie Henke.

ROBERT B. L. TAYLOR,
1025 Oberlin Drive,
Columbus, Ohio 43221

Frank McCahem

● Frank McCahem, 71, of Mason City, Iowa, died recently. He served in CBI during WW2. Survivors include a daughter.

(From a newspaper clipping sent in by Marvin Boyenga, Mason City, Iowa.)

20th Air Force

● Was with the 91st DSS, 22nd ADG at Kharagpur; was part of the 20th Bomber Command until Curt LeMay made us the 20th Air Force. The 22nd has had two reunions, which I have missed, but understand one is coming up in Chicago next year. Hope to see many old friends there.

RALPH C. ROBINSON,
Redmond, Wash.

780 E.P.D. Co.

● Was with the 780 E.P.D. Company in CBI and we served in all three countries. We have a reunion every two years; our next will be in Greenwich, Conn.

RAYMOND SMITH,
Avenel, N.J.



CATTLE on the street in an Indian city. Photo by LeRoy Engel.



CONTROL tower at Sookerating, India, in May 1945. Photo by LeRoy Engel.

80th Air Depot

● Am an India veteran with a year and a half served in Karachi and Panagar with the 80th Air Depot Repair Squadron.

RICHARD A. BAKER,
Keene, N.H.

Crew Chief

● Spent two years as a crew chief in Kunming, China, and lived at the hostel about a half mile from the airfield. I read Ex-CBI Roundup as soon as it arrives and really enjoy it, especially articles about General Chennault and the Flying Tigers of the 26th Squadron, 14th Air Force, where I served. I would be happy to hear from any CBIs who might care to write to me.

ANDY SAMELA,
709 Palmer Ct.,
Mamaroneck, N.Y. 10543

USS Hermitage

● Left Long Beach on the USS Hermitage (Conte Biancamano) in July 1943, to Wellington, Perth and Bombay. Was at Karachi for a few months, then at Calcutta (Dum Dum) where I worked as crew chief and assistant line chief. Went to Bombay on DS to take troops from Bombay to Myitkyina. Was on DS to Tezpur with Calcutta-based aircraft during the early days at Myitkyina,

when the Japanese held one end of the strip and we the other. In September 1944 was assigned to staff aircraft for General A. C. Wedemeyer as crew chief, which was my assignment until rotated home December 1945. We were based in Chungking, Nanking and Shanghai. The nostalgia flows when I read your great magazine.

WM. L. (Bill) BRYAN,
48 Bush St.,
S. Dartmouth, Mass. 02748

Harold Rasmussen

● Harold P. Rasmussen, 72, of Sun City, Ariz., died April 24. A CBI veteran of WW2, he was a member of the Army Reserve and retired in 1966 as a lieutenant colonel.

(From a Sun City News clipping sent in by Elsie M. Sours, Phoenix, Ariz.)

Edward T. Mai

● Edward T. Mai of Dallas, Tex., 1972-73 Texas State CBIVA commander, died July 26 of cancer. A retired vice president of Southwestern Laboratories, he has served as Dallas basha commander and national CBIVA vice commander. He was in the Air Transport Command at Karachi during WW2. His wife, Mary, survives.

(From information submitted by several Roundup readers.)

12th Combat Cargo

● Was a pilot in 12th Combat Cargo, 10th Air Force, at Loran, Imphal, Ledo, Mitinaya-North.

BERTUS T. HOMBS,
Hesperia, Calif.



CARICATURIST Don Barclay is shown "deflating the egos" of men of the 373rd Bomb Squadron in recreation room at Yangkai, China, in 1943. Barclay's subject (left foreground) is Howard Jones. Immediately in back of Jones is Ted Jackowicz. In foreground at extreme right is Bert Krawczyk, well-known watercolor artist. Photo by Ted Jackowicz.

1st Air Commando

● The 1st Air Commando Group 35th anniversary reunion was held Aug. 9-11, 1979, at Stauffer's Dayton Plaza Hotel, Dayton, Ohio, with arrangements made by President Howard L. Smith for the 118 members attending. Plans were made for the next reunion to be held in California. The film, "Stillwell Road," was submitted by Stan Robertson and a second film, "Burma Victory," was brought from the United Kingdom by James Perry, Esq. A Queen's vase was given to the Commandos by The Chindits Old Comrade Association and presented to the U.S. Air Force Museum by Col. J. S. Lancaster, J.P., D.L., in the presence of Maj. Gen. John Alison, Col. Philip Cochran, Wilbur Mitsdarffer and Howard L. Smith. The vase, considered priceless, now is on display in the archives of the museum under Burma Campaign. Colonel Lancaster was also featured speaker at the dinner.

RUSSEL E. PRATHER,
Dayton, Ohio

Garden State Basha

● First anniversary banquet of the Garden State Basha was held June 23 at the Coachman Inn, Cranford, N.J., with 64 in attendance. Ross K. Miller is the basha commander.

WARREN
WEIDENBURNER,
Linden, N.J.

71st Liaison

● Was with the 71st Liaison from Ledo to Mandalay and touched all bases in between like Warazup, Shaduzup, Myitkyina, Katha, Mongmit and Bahe. I was a tech sergeant pilot and we flew L-1, L-4 and L-5 planes. Reenlisted in 1948 and flew both choppers and



QUEEN'S VASE given to the 1st Air Commando Group by The Chindits Old Comrade Association is presented at recent 1979 reunion in Dayton, Ohio, to Col. Richard L. Upstrom, director of the U.S. Air Force Museum, Wright-Patterson Field, by Col. J. S. Lancaster, J.P., D.L., of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom. Looking on are two well-known former 1st Air Commando leaders, Col. Philip Cochran (left) and Maj. Gen. John Alison.

fixed wing aircraft until my retirement as a chief warrant officer in 1963. Would like to hear from anybody who was in the 71st.

PATRICK W. COLLETTE,
1103 Hazelwood Dr.,
Smyrna, Tenn. 37167

Varied Service

● Arrived in India in June 1943 and spent a month on detached service in the U.S.-operated refrigeration plant in Karachi. Then was assigned to the Signal Corps, but put on detached service to the Air Corps at the Agra Air Depot where I helped overhaul propellers. From Dec. 31, 1943, to Sept. 22, 1945, was in the 1036 Signal Corps, 305th Air Service Group, at Ondal. Then was transferred to the 33rd Fighter Group, Dudkundi, to expedite my return to the States. In November 1945 left Karachi on HMS Torrens, a small Dutch freighter, and came home through the Suez Canal and the Mediterranean sea. Arrived New York Dec. 7, 1945.

E. K. DAVENPORT,
Arthur, Ill.

Anna L. Caldwell

● Anna Longacre Caldwell, a CBI veteran, died July 23 at Phoenixville, Pa., after a long illness. She joined the U.S. Army in 1941 and was honorably discharged as a captain in 1946. She served with the 20th General Hospital in Assam, India.

ALMA H. GARSIDE,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Formal Surrender

● As an ex-Marine, I served in Tsingtao, China, during WW2. I was in China from October 1945 to April 1946 and was in on the formal surrender of the Japanese armed forces at that time.

JOSEPH KITE,
Westwood, N.J.

15th Airways

● Was a sergeant in the 15th Airways Detachment of the 68th Air Service Group and was in the CBI theater from January 1944 to September 1945. Main bases were Kunming and Chengtung, but we flew the Hump often.

JAMES F. CARLSON,
Somerset, N.J.

Jack White

● Am trying to locate a buddy I served with in Hankow in 1945. His name is Jack White; he was from Hillside, N.J., and also had resided in Lebanon, Pa. I was from St. Paul at the time. My middle name is Axel, and he referred to me as "Ax."

VERNON A. AHL,
31 Northfield St.,
Duluth, Minn. 55803

Boris Chaliapin

● Boris Chaliapin, 72, a Russian-born artist known for his 400 Time magazine covers from the 1940s to the 1960s, died May 18 in New York. (One of those covers, of General Claire L. Chennault, was featured in the November 1977 issue of Ex-CBI Roundup.)

(From a Newsday clipping submitted by Arthur A. Ondris, Bayside, N.Y.)

301 Service Group

● Was a line chief in the 319th Service Squadron, 301st Service Group, serving in India and Burma from July 1943 to October 1945. I am sure I was in the same area as Lou Solomon of Yonkers, N.Y., whose letter I read in the May



ALERT line of the AVG at Toungoo, Burma, on Dec. 8, 1941.
The P-40 in foreground was flown by Bill Reed, who was killed at Hengyang, China, in 1944. Photo by Chuck Baisden.

issue. I would like to hear from him and any others who shared the same experiences that we did. Through your fine magazine I was able to contact a former missionary, Rev. Alfred Merrill of the Garo Hills. He was kind enough to send me a book by Rev. Frank Harding, "Christ and the Hillmen," which told of an experience we shared when I was a visitor to the mission while searching for a downed plane in the Garo Hills.

HAROLD BLACKORBY,
205 Walton St.,
Jerseyville, Ill. 62052

685th AAA MG

● Would like to hear from anyone who was in the 685th AAA MG Battery.
GEORGE S. McDONALD,
412 North 8th Ave.,
Marshalltown, Iowa 50158

Too Heavy!

● You printed my letter on page 27 of the May issue. I know I was heavy, but it should have been 228 pounds when I was discharged, not 278, although soon after from eating home cooking, etc., I did get near to 260. Now I am down to fighting weight of 205 pounds to control my blood pressure. Also getting a little younger, 72 in July. And speaking for myself and the thousands of others of us wallahs, Ex-CBI Roundup is certainly appreciated. Please keep it up for many years, and God bless you in this marvelous undertaking for our pleasure.

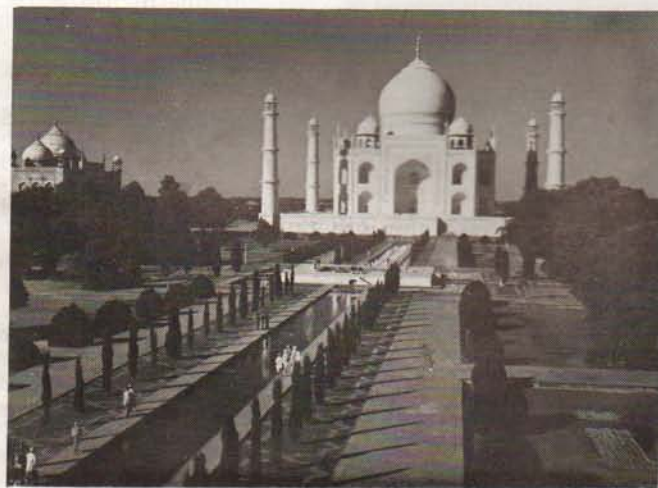
JOE REYNOLDS,
Flushing, N.Y.

11th Combat Cargo

● Was stationed at Dinjan, India, from May 1944 until the first of July, 1945, when the 11th Combat Cargo Squadron, 3rd Group, went to China. I left for Stateside the last of September. Let's hear from the 11th.

EDWARD C. BUTLER,
P.O. Box 263,
Ruskin, Fla. 33570

EX-CBI ROUNDUP



TAJ MAHAL at Agra, India, with gardens in foreground and one of the two buildings that flank the Taj on both sides.
Photo by Merritt H. Quayle.

Angelo F. Elmo

● Lt. Col. Angelo F. Elmo, USAF Ret., died March 27, 1979, at the age of 60. His home was near Washington, D.C. He was a pilot in CBI during WW2, and also flew 135 combat missions in Vietnam. Survivors include his wife and a daughter.

(From an Air Force Times clipping sent in by Elsie Sours, Phoenix, Ariz.)

305th Service Gp.

● Have been receiving Ex-CBI Roundup for 30 years now and have almost all the issues. Have really enjoyed the articles that have found their way into the magazine lately, especially those by Nevin Wetzel. Have noted a few more letters from the 305th Service Group and some of the Ondal, Pandaveswar and Gushkara CBIs and always enjoy reading them.

ROCCO V. PERNETTI,
Los Banos, Calif.

923rd Signal

● The other day I came across a box of CBI snapshots, with many duplicates that I had promised to make for



RICKSHAW stand in Calcutta, India, in 1944, near Firpo's restaurant on Chowringhee Road. Photo by Jim Fletcher.

some of the 923rd Signal gang at Bengal Air Depot. If anyone has the list of names and addresses of this unsung but hardworking group, I'd appreciate a copy as it may jog my memory of who gets what. Most of the 923rd, as well as Bengal Air Depot personnel, may remember me as reporter, then editor of the Tiger Rag weekly there.

EUGENE BERNALD,
83 Somerstown Rd.,
Ossining, N.Y. 10562

115th Liaison

● Was liaison pilot with the 115th Liaison Squadron, 1944-45. Flew out of a jungle strip at Ledo, India. Would like to hear from anyone with the squadron at that time.

HAROLD D. KREFT,
P.O. Box 499,
Wickenburg, Ariz. 85358

John Howard Dotson

● John Howard Dotson, 59, Galion, Ohio, died April 8 following a heart attack. He served in CBI during WW2. Survivors include his wife and a daughter.

(From a Galion, Ohio, Inquirer clipping submitted by R. J. Sentieri, Galion, Ohio.)

Howard Funston

● Would like to get in touch with a former buddy, Lt. Howard Funston, Army Medical Admin. Corps. We were stationed in Kweilin, China, in 1945.

JOE MARSHALL,
7023 40th Ave. N.E.,
Seattle, Wash. 98115

20th General

● Was assigned to the SOS surgeon's office in New Delhi, then the 20th General Hospital on the Ledo Road where I worked in the Detachment of Patients office.

DAVE ATWATER,
Santa Maria, Calif.



EARLY in 1943 Sgt. Howard Arnegard, who created the design, and Sgt. Robert Naves, who drew it in final form, present to Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault the new official emblem of the Flying Tigers of the 14th Air Force. Sgt. Naves later lost his life in China. Photo by Deno Renieri.

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

by
**ETHEL G.
YAVORSKY, R.N.**

National Commander
China-Burma-India
Veterans Assn.



Dear Sahibs and Memsahibs:

I do not know how to express adequately my appreciation of the honor you have conferred upon me by electing me national commander of CBIVA, Inc.

The by-laws define the duties of a commander somewhat as follows: To preside at the meetings, see that business is properly conducted, and secure obedience to the laws and regulations. That seems simple enough, but in reality it is much more than that. The commander is, temporarily at least, the head of this organization (CBIVA), and this organization is judged by her. Just as a man is judged by "his" head, a man's body may be large or small, strong or weak, but one look at his head decides us in his favor or against it.

I am beginning to realize that my work did not begin and end at the reunion in Scottsdale; that in meeting with others I shall be known, during my term in office, as the national commander of CBIVA. I shall derive honor; therefore it behooves me by my conduct to reflect honor in CBIVA. It is my duty to assist in promoting good feeling; to conserve our resources; to bring others into our organization; and to promote the purposes for which we are organized.

This space is contributed to the CBIVA by Ex-CBI Roundup as a service to the many readers who are members of the Assn., of which Roundup is an official publication. It is important to remember that CBIVA and Roundup are entirely separate organizations. Your subscription to Roundup does not entitle you to membership in CBIVA, nor does your membership in CBIVA entitle you to a subscription to Roundup. You need not be a member of CBIVA in order to subscribe to Roundup or vice versa. Ed.

And so I ask myself this question: Can I do these things acceptably to the members? I can truthfully answer that I will try. I will assume my duties cheerfully, and discharge them to the best of my ability.

But, my fellow comrades, I realize that alone a commander can do nothing. therefore I trust that, as I endeavor to carry out your wishes in all matters, I may at all times have your fullest confidence, your advice, your sympathy and support — to the end that National CBIVA may grow in strength and numbers during my term in office.

Again let me thank you for the honor, and assure you of my desire to justify the confidence you have reposed in me.

The 32nd annual CBIVA National Reunion is now past history. The Valley of the Sun Basha is to be commended for a super job well done. It was a great reunion, one to be remembered. I am sure many of the "first timers" will desire to attend the 1980 reunion in Orlando, Fla., and all future reunions.

My wish is to visit as many basha gatherings as possible east of the Mississippi, and Sr. Vice Vic Tama-shunas those west of the Mississippi. It may be impossible to make as many stops as I desire, but there are eight junior vice commanders who may be contacted. Do give us enough notice of your meetings that we can make necessary arrangements. We are not all retired.

I will name committees throughout the year, and know many will help Sr. Vice Vic who is chairman of membership. Response of volunteers to serve on committees has been heartwarming.

Remember, the first important business will be the Fall Board Meeting scheduled for Nov. 2, 1979, at CBIVA National Headquarters, Milwaukee War Memorial Center, Milwaukee, Wis. The business agenda will take up the entire day, with time out for lunch. Bring your own ideas, comments, etc. I invite everyone to attend. The Milwaukee Basha, our host, has already made all arrangements. Mark your calendar now and remember the dates — Friday and Saturday, Nov. 2 and 3, 1979.

Stay healthy and active!

David W. Parks

● David W. Parks, 63, of Easton, Pa., died recently. He served in the AACCS at Gaya, India, and elsewhere during WW2. His wife survives.

ROSS K. MILLER,
Roselle, N.J.

Canteen Caravan

● Had served with Mars Task Force in Troop A, 124th Cavalry. Shipping out of Fort Riley, I was put into a show called "Canteen Caravan" on detached service to 36th Special Services Co. We had a great 14-piece band headed by Sgt. Dave Horine. I did a hillbilly character known as "Dopey Duncan." On returning home I continued doing shows and had 23 years on radio as a DJ. I sure would love to hear from any of the 124th Cavalry boys or former members of "Canteen Caravan."

LUTHER GEHRINGER,
R-V Park,
Eustis, Fla. 32726

POW in China

● Was a Marine on Wake Island. We were captured 23 Dec. 1941 and taken to Shanghai, China; later to Peking and then to Korea and finally Japan where we worked in



BEGGAR in cemetery near Landhi Field, India. Photo by Bob Lee.

coal mines. We were POWs for 44 months. I witnessed one of the last air actions in China which was carried out over Shanghai in January 1945 by P-51s. It was a dilly and I was working near a Japanese air field when it occurred. It would be interesting to hear from pilots who flew the P-51s in that raid. The POWs were elated, and some of them were bayoneted in the legs by angry Jap guards.

CHARLES A. HOLMES,
CW04 USMC (Ret.),
1202 Pecan St.,
Bonham, Tex. 75418

Burma Star

● More than 6,000 British veterans attended the 33rd Burma Reunion held April 28 in Royal Albert Hall, London. Guests from the United States, representing the China-Burma-India Veterans Association, were Dr. William Houpt, Glen Mills, Pa.; Charles A. "Chuck" Mitchell, Treasure Island, Fla.; Charles Pabst, Albany, N.Y.; and Ben Cooper, now living in West Germany. The program included the Romford Drum and Trumpet Corps, Regimental Bands of the Grenadier Guards, the Powys male choir from Mid Wales, and singing by Dame Vera Lynn. Royal guest this year was H.R.H. Princess Margaret. Among those who came to the box to greet the Americans after the program were Princess Margaret, Lord Louis Mountbatten, Air Vice-Marshal Sir Bernard Chacksfield and Viscount Slim. On April 29, following the reunion, about 5,500 veterans turned out for the annual Remembrance Parade, with a wreath-laying ceremony at the Cenotaph in honor of fallen comrades.

(From information furnished by Dr. William Houpt and Charles A. Mitchell.)



COLORFUL gateway to a Chinese village. Photo by Bill Niendorf.



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